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PATENTS

③ CO #5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Specification of:

AKIHITO NISHIKAWA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/918,303

Filed: JULY 30, 2001

For: PRODUCT DESIGN PROCESS AND
PRODUCT DESIGN APPARATUS

Art Unit: TO BE ASSIGNED

Examiner: TO BE ASSIGNED

RECEIVED

APR 23 2002

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY Technology Center 2100

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The applicants in the patent application identified above here respond to the Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed March 1, 2002.

On November 7, 2001, the applicants mailed a Response to Notice to File Missing Parts, followed by a Supplemental Response mailed November 9, 2001. The postal reply cards returned by the PTO show that the Response was received January 16, 2002 and that the Supplemental Response was received January 9, 2002. A copy of each postcard is enclosed herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on March 14, 2002.

Roger T. Frost - Reg. No. 22,176

Application No. 09/918,303
Response to Notice of Incomplete Reply

A copy of the Notice of Incomplete Reply dated March 1, 2002 is enclosed.

The Notice of Incomplete Reply asserts that the "Reply on 01/09/2002" (i.e., the Supplemental Response) failed to include a signed oath or declaration, and required payment of \$60 for six independent claims over three. However, the applicants did submit that Declaration with their Response to Notice to File Missing Parts (mailed November 7, 2001 and received at the PTO January 16, 2002). A copy of that Declaration is enclosed herewith.

Turning to the fee, the applicants submitted payment of \$1,536 with the Supplemental Response. That fee included payment of \$480 for six independent claims over three. A copy of that check, and of the applicants' fee calculation sheet accompanying the check, is enclosed.

Accordingly, the applicants submit that the excess claims fee was timely paid in this application. However, if the PTO still believes that \$60 fee remains payable, the undersigned calls attention to the authorization to charge additional fees to a deposit account, in the aforementioned Response. That authorization was part of a timely response, and the applicants should not be required to pay further extension fees or petition to revive the application at this time.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply. The undersigned acknowledges that the PTO may have mailed that Notice before matching

Application No. 09/918,303
Response to Notice of Incomplete Reply

applicants' Response with this file. However, at this time the applicants are making of record its position that it timely submitted all items needed to complete this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger T. Frost
Reg. No. 22,176

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
Suite 2800
1100 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
Direct Phone: (404) 745-2402
Direct Fax: (404) 541-3208

Docket No: 13700-261901 (44471-261901)



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING/RECEIPT DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 09/918,303 | 07/30/2001 | Akihito Nishikawa | 44471-261901 (13700) |

CONFIRMATION NO. 9884

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000007567307

Roger T. Frost
 KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
 Suite 2800
 1100 Peachtree Street
 Atlanta, GA 30309-4530

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Date Mailed: 03/01/2002

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NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

Filing Date Granted

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 01/09/2002 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 09/05/2001 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

- The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).
- A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application.

The required items noted below SHOULD be filed along with any items required above. The filing date of this nonprovisional application will be the date of receipt of the items required above.

- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$60.
 - \$60 for 6 independent claims over 3 .
- The oath or declaration is missing.
A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 60.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

A. T. S. - J. S.
 Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office official Mailroom stamp affixed
hereto, acknowledges receipt of the items checked below:

Applicant: AKIHIKO NISHIKAWA, ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/918,303
Filed: July 30, 2001
Title: Product Design Process and Product Design Apparatus
Papers: Supplemental Response to Notice to File Missing Parts (1 page)
Check in the amount of \$1,536.00

Attorney/Sec'y: RTF/drh
Date Mailed: November 9, 2001
Docket: 44471-261901 (13700-261901)

COPY

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|
| KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP OPERATING ACCOUNT 1100 Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530 | | DATE 11-08-01 | WACHOVIA Wachovia Bank of Georgia, N.A. Atlanta, GA 30383 | NO. 281694 64-1 610 |
| AY ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX AND 00/100 Dollars | | \$*****1,536.00 | | |
| Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks | | VOID AFTER 180 DAYS TWO SIGNATURES REQUIRED OVER \$2,000 <i>Luci M. Rawleff</i> | | |
| 471-261901 (13700-261901) | | | | |

** 28 1694 ** 06 10000 10: 13 159 238 **

ENTERED COMPUTER
ON 12/11/01 GM
261901



PATENTS

In re Application

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AKIHIKO NISHIKAWA, ET AL.

Serial No. 09/918,303

Filed: JULY 30, 2001

For: PRODUCT DESIGN PROCESS AND PRODUCT DESIGN APPARATUS

Docket No. 13700-261901

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS – FILING DATE GRANTED

Attention: Box Missing Parts
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are papers in the above-identified application.

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- Formalities Letter – Notice to File Missing Parts of Application – Filing Date Granted.
- Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136.
- The additional fee is calculated as shown below.

| FOR: | NO. FILED | NO. EXTRA | RATE | Fee | RATE | Fee |
|---|--------------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|----------|
| BASIC FEE | | | \$355 | | \$710 | 710 |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 32 - 20 = 12 | x9 = | | | x18 = | 216 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | 9 - 3 = 5 | x40 = | | | x80 = | 480 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED | | +135 = | | +270 = | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LATE-FILING SURCHARGE | | +65 = | | +130 = | | 130 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FOREIGN LANGUAGE SURCHARGE | | +130 = | | +130 = | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER | | | | +435 = | | |
| | | | TOTAL | | TOTAL | 1,536.00 |

- A check in the amount of \$1,536.00 is attached.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-0855. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 7, 2001.

Roger T. Frost

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
1100 Peachtree Street
Suite 2800
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
Telephone: 404/815-6500

By:
Roger T. Frost, Reg. No. 22,176
Attorney for Applicant

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The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office official Mailroom stamp affixed hereto, acknowledges receipt of the items checked below:

Applicant: AKIHITO NISHIKAWA, ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/918,303
Filed: July 30, 2001
Title: Product Design Process and Product Design Apparatus
Papers: Supplemental Response to Notice to File Missing Parts (1 page
Check in the amount of \$1,536.00)

Attorney/Sec'y: RTF/drh
Date Mailed: November 9, 2001
Docket: 44471-261901 (13700-261901)



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Please stamp with date of receipt & return to addressee.

Applicant: CHIKASHI OKAYAMA, ET AL.
App. No.: 09/918,303
Title: PRODUCT DESIGN PROCESS AND PRODUCT
DESIGN APPARATUS.

PAPERS SUBMITTED:

Response to Notice to File Missing Parts; copy of Notice; executed Declaration
and POA; \$1,536 check; Petition for Extension of Time; \$110 check

Atty/Sec'y: RTF/sjb
Date: November 7, 2001
Docket: (44471/261901)



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